Uneconomic Railway Lines

2900. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any uneconomic Railway Lines have been identified;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to close them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As many as 149 branch lines were found uneconomic during 1984-85.

(c) It will not be possible to close down all the uneconomic lines immediately. The proposals for closure of such lines are processed in the light of the recommendations of the Railway Reforms Committee, keeping in view that adequate alternative road transport is available to meet the traffic requirements of the area.

Aircrafts used for Vayudoot services

2901. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state what are the types of aircrafts being utilized in Vayudoot services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The types of Aircraft presently in the fleet of Vayudoot are as follows:—

(I) F-27

(II) HS-748

(III) Dornier 200—228

Review/modification of DTC bus routes

2902. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government recently for the review/modification of DTC bus route Nos. 500, 509, 510, 518, 526, 530, 538, 618, 680 and 725 in Delhi or to increase the frequency of services thereon; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The changes proposed in respect of a number of routes involved by-passing of certain important areas, extension of route lengths affecting frequency as also increase in fare-charges for the commuters. In view of this, present arrangements have not been disturbed. However, on the basis of scheduled traffic survey on route number 509, Limited Stop trip during peak hours will be provided.

High incidence of deaths due to rabies in the country

2903. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the number of people who die of rabies annually in various parts of the country, if so, the States which have the highest incidence of rabies-deaths;

(b) what is the annual percentage rise in the deaths due to rabies during the last three years (year-wise) in each State;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to formlulate rabies control programme at the national level; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The exact number of people who die of rabies in India is not known. According to the information available with Directorate General of Health Services—CBHI, the number of deaths reported due to rabies is as under: